

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING

In accordance with Rhode Island General Law (RIGL) 42-35 and 42-72-5, notice is hereby given that the Department of Children, Youth and Families proposes to adopt the following DCYF rule:

FIFTEEN MINUTE ROOM CHECK

This new rule, in compliance with the federal court order relating to RI Training School residents and the accreditation standards of the American Correctional Association for Juvenile Training Schools and Juvenile Detention Facilities, provides that staff implement fifteen minute room checks to ensure the safety and security of RI Training School residents and to safeguard against possible escapes, self injury or other harmful situations.

In the development of this rule, consideration was given to the following: (1) alternative approaches and (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions. No alternative approach or duplication or overlap was identified based upon available information.

This proposed rule is accessible on the R.I. Secretary of State's website (<http://www.sec.state.ri.us/ProposedRules/>) and the DCYF website (<http://www.dcyf.ri.gov>) or available in hard copy upon request (401 528-3685). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by April 5, 2010 Susan Bowler, Administrator for Families and Children, Department of Children, Youth and Families, 101 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903 (Susan.Bowler@dcyf.ri.gov).

In accordance with RIGL 42-35-3, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by an agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within thirty (30) days of this notice.

Fifteen Minute Room Checks

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families
Division of Juvenile Correctional Services: RI Training School

Policy: 1200.0839

Effective Date:

Version: 1

To ensure the safety and security of the residents and to safeguard against possible escapes, self injury or other harmful situations, visual contact is made with the resident at fifteen minute intervals while the resident is in his/her room. These room checks are recorded as described in the attached procedure.

Related Procedure

Fifteen Minute Rooms Checks

Related Policy

Incentive System - Points and Levels

Discipline for Academic and Vocational Classes

Behavior Report

Major Discipline Review

Administrative Classification to Restrictive Status

Lock Up

Resident Handbook

Fifteen Minute Room Checks

Procedure from Policy 1200.0839: Fifteen Minute Room Checks

- A. On all shifts, staff check rooms occupied by residents at least once every fifteen minutes unless more frequent contact has been ordered.
1. One staff member is assigned to and is responsible for making fifteen minute room checks unless someone is otherwise designated by supervisory personnel. The assigned staff member is identified in the Unit Log Book.
 2. The portable Watch Tour Wand is utilized by staff making the fifteen minute room checks.
 3. The staff making the fifteen minute room checks visually confirms the appropriate status of each resident using the night light for each room as necessary.
 4. In the event that the Watch Tour Wand is inoperable or unavailable, a directive is issued by the Superintendent or designee to utilize the fifteen (15) minute room check report forms 044A and 044B.
 5. Changes of assignment require supervisory or administrative approval and must be noted in the Unit Log Book.
 6. The portable Watch Tour Wand is properly secured at all times and kept in an area designated by the Unit Manager.
 7. Upon completing the tour of duty, the Watch Tour Wand is loaded on its downloading/recharging dock, which is kept in an area designated by the Unit Manager.
- B. Paragraphs A and B are consistent with American Correctional Association Standards 3-JDF-3A-06; 3-JTS-3A-06; 3-JDF-3A-09; 3-JTS-3A-09; 3-JDF-3C-07; 3-JTS-3C-07; 3-JDF-3E-04; and 3-JTS-3E-04.